

16 Belgrave Road, Clifton

Nov. 15 - 1875 Bristol

My dear Mr Garrison,

Accept my warm thanks for the Boston paper containing the picture of Boston forty years ago! It is hard to believe in the contract ^{of 15 days}, & yet how quietly it is accepted, and all the threatened evils that were to have followed in the train of abolition utterly forgotten! Truly I can say that I "give thanks at every remembrance of you," & feel devoutly thankful that you are a living witness of the wondrous transformation you spent yourself in bringing about - I hope your health is somewhat better than it was last year & also that dear Mr Garrison suffers less. I need not tell you that I eagerly questioned Mr Elmy on his return & heard with delight his narration of the precious four days he spent with you - It is was a case in which experiences, not days & weeks, are the measure

My dear Mr. Garrison
I have just received your letter of the 10th inst. and am
glad to hear from you. I am well and hope these few lines
will find you the same. I have been thinking much of late
of the state of the world and the progress of the
reform. I feel that we are making some progress but
it is slow and we must persevere. I am sure that
the cause is just and that in the end we shall triumph.
I am, dear Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
Wm. Lloyd Garrison

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of existence, and he certainly lived more
& gained more in that half week with
you than in half a year of ordinary inter-
course. It was a great joy to me to find
he had been such a gainer, and I felt
inwardly grateful to you for doing
so much more for him personally than
I had at all meditated asking from you.
Nothing was thrown away, as you must
perceive from his subsequent commu-
nications with you. Your friendship &
unreserved communion seem to have met
a want & formed an ~~new~~ era for him;
for the thoughts amid which he was
toiling & groping were responded to &
helped onward by your matured convictions
& wide experience. And your hearty ~~approval~~
of the painful anti-slavery crusade which
has arisen in these latter days, (into
which Mr Elmy has thrown his whole
soul) was an inexpressible joy & solace
to him. It is to us all, in our respective

departments of the work, a tower of strength
to have you cheering us on, & to ^{be able to} ~~have~~
~~look back to~~ your victory to look ~~back to~~ as an earnest
of our own final triumph. Though, ^{now} at
times, it seems as if our way closed up
in one direction as fast as it opens in another
and as if the wall was ever being built up
higher & higher to shut out the light, & bar us
off from those we would rescue — Yet
there is a great awakening and advance
of public sentiment here in various directions.
The "woman question" is greatly altered since
the World's Convention in 1840! — And even
since you addressed meetings in this
country in reference to the Free Kirk money
& other branches of the anti-slavery reform,
a vast improvement has taken place —
In glancing over some of your ^{speeches} ~~types~~ at
that time, & recalling the amaze & op-
position they caused I can trace the altered
tone of feeling & general enlightenment on
points that were then utterly uncomprehended.

Would that we could hear your voice
and see your form amongst us once more,
I find that our beloved Mr Butler has
actually asked whether such a thing
is practicable. I fear that I know
too well what your crossing the ocean
on our behalf would involve, and how
fraught with fatigue & suffering to you
such an undertaking must prove, to dare
to record her entreaty. Though there
is nothing I should so much rejoice in
as to welcome you here; and I yield only
to our dear Mrs Nichol & the Wighams
in the older closer claim to share the
joy of ministering to you! But again
I remember your beloved wife's health
as well as your own, and the well earned
right to re-from work henceforth, came
by daily enjoying & giving forth the fruits
of the spirit - If it were possible to transport
you here I might feel less compunction at the

[illegible]

invitation. It would be a great help to us to have a voice from your land, uttering the same doctrine that our dear Mrs Butler has worn out her health in proclaiming. And it would bind us together in all these reform movements if one of your advocates were to come to us, & one of ours to visit you. I should like for Mr Army to be six months, or at least four, in America. He only tasted its rich fruits. I was thankful he saw so many friends considering the season of his visit.

The Woman's Journal is deeply interesting, the last number, containing the account of the Woman's Congress, especially so. The paper has many readers here (my copy I mean) I wish it were more extensively taken in.

You will have received copies of the "Shield" from me lately, I direct them to you when ^{there is} any special point for you to notice or some interesting report. But it is ^{on} too sad

a theme for regular perusal, unless
where 'immediate action arises —

I was very glad to hear of your sons
from Mr Elmy. Please to give my warm
regards to each of them. & much love to
dear Mr Garrison — I could
enumerate a long list of friends ^{Boston}
who live in my affectionate memory
to whom I fondly hope some day to
see again — But I will not trouble
you with messages except of regard to
Mr & Mrs Watson & Mr Edmund Jackson
if you happen to see them —

Believe me ever yours with deep
& grateful affection

Mary Estlin

